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Advance Data

From Vital and Health Statistics of the National Center for Health Statistics

AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes for April–June 1990

Provisional Data From the National Health Interview Survey

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Introduction

The National Center for Health Statistics has included questions about acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) in the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) since 1987. Data concerning the adult population's knowledge and attitudes about AIDS and transmission of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) are collected to assist in planning educational programs. Since the initiation of the NHIS AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes Survey, its scope has widened to include questions on HIV testing and blood donation experience. In addition, questions assessing self-perceived risk of becoming infected with HIV and a general risk behavior question similar to that asked by the Red Cross of potential blood donors have been included. At various points in its history, the AIDS survey has also been used as a tool for evaluating public awareness campaigns and for assessing the public's willingness to participate in a national seroprevalence survey. Information on the NHIS AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes Survey sample is contained in the technical notes at the end of this report.

The first AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes Survey was in the field from August-December 1987. Provisional results of that survey were published monthly in *Advance Data From Vital and Health Statistics* (Nos. 146, 148, 150, 151, and 153). During the beginning of 1988, the NHIS questionnaire was revised to meet program needs at that time. The revised AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes Survey entered the field in May 1988. Provisional findings for the remainder of 1988 were published periodically (*Advance Data From Vital and Health Statistics* Nos. 160, 161, 163, 164, 167, 175, and 193); in addition, two special reports with a focus on minority populations were published from the 1988 data (*Advance Data From Vital and Health Statistics* Nos. 165 and 166).

The 1988 AIDS questionnaire was used without modification throughout 1989, and results were published on a quarterly basis (*Advance Data From Vital and Health Statistics* Nos. 176, 179, 183, and 186). For 1990, the AIDS questionnaire was revised again, with added emphasis on HIV testing and on the distinction between testing in connection with blood donation and for other reasons. Provisional survey findings will continue to be published on a quarterly basis for the 1990 data.

The NHIS AIDS questionnaires are developed by the National Center for Health Statistics and an interagency Task Force created by the Public Health Service Health Data Policy Committee. The Task Force included representatives from the Centers for Disease Control; the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health; the National Institutes of Health; the Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration; the Food and Drug Administration; and the Health Resources and Services Administration.

The *Advance Data* reports describing the NHIS AIDS data have been restricted to simple descriptive statistics to facilitate their timely release. Thus, these reports do not attempt to explain or interpret differences among population subgroups or to examine relationships

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among various measures of knowledge and behavior. The NHIS AIDS data bases permit more complex analyses than those presented in this series of *Advance Data* reports, and further exploration of the data is encouraged. Public use data tapes of the 1987 and 1988 AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes Surveys are available at this time, and the data tape for 1989 will be released by the end of this year.

This report presents provisional data for April–June 1990 for most items included in the 1990 NHIS AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes questionnaire. Table 1 displays percent distributions of persons 18 years of age and over by response categories, according to age, sex, race/ethnicity, and education. In most cases, the actual questions asked of the respondents are reproduced verbatim in table 1 along with the coded response categories. In a few cases, questions or response categories have been rephrased or combined for clearer or more concise presentation or results. Refusals and other nonresponse categories (generally less than 1 percent of total responses) are excluded from the denominator in the calculation of estimates, but responses of "don't know" are included. The NHIS AIDS questionnaire uses the phrase "the AIDS virus" rather than "HIV," because it is felt to be more widely recognized and understood. However, this recognition is changing, as is noted later that over 70 percent of adults said they had heard AIDS called by the term "HIV". In this report the two terms are used synonymously.

The population subgroups used in presenting the 1990 NHIS AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes data differ from those used in previous reports. In reports based on the 1987–89 surveys, two racial categories were shown: white and black. The 1990 reports show three categories that reflect both race and ethnic origin: non-Hispanic white, non-Hispanic black, and Hispanic. This change, which reflects the increasing demand for information about the Hispanic population, means that estimates by race cannot be compared directly between the 1990 and earlier NHIS AIDS *Advance Data* reports. In addition, the revisions in the questionnaire, whether in actual wording or in context and location of questions, must be considered when interpreting trend data.

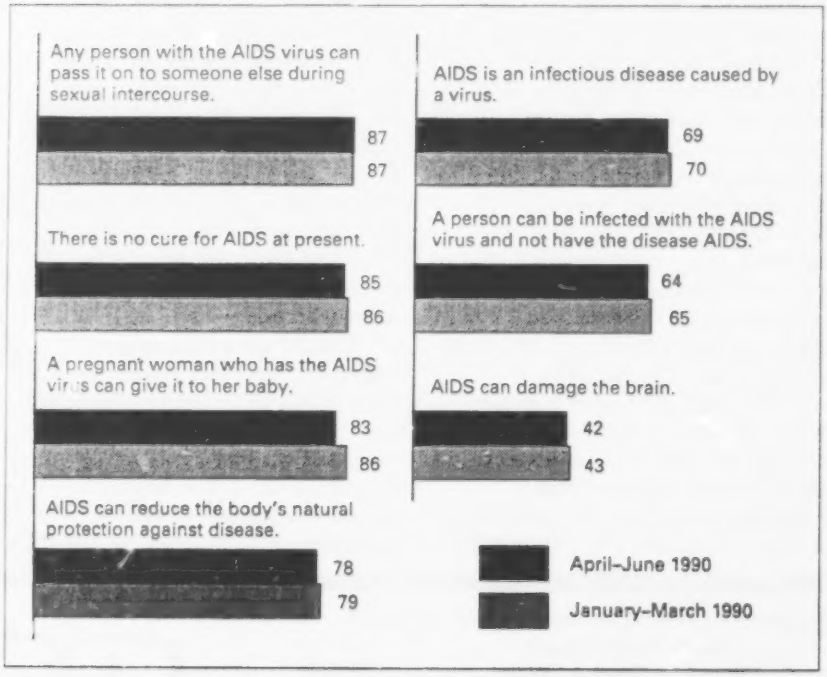
Any person with the AIDS virus can pass it on to someone else during sexual intercourse.
87
87
There is no cure for AIDS at present.
85
86
A pregnant woman who has the AIDS virus can give it to her baby.
83
86
AIDS can reduce the body's natural protection against disease.
78
79
AIDS is an infectious disease caused by a virus.
69
70
A person can be infected with the AIDS virus and not have the disease AIDS.
64
65
AIDS can damage the brain.
42
43
April–June 1990
January–March 1990

Figure 1. Provisional estimates of percent of adults reporting that selected statements are definitely true: United States, April–June 1990

Selected findings

The following highlights describe survey results of the NHIS AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes Survey for the period April–June 1990. Unless otherwise noted in the text, all measures described remained stable over the 3-month period. All differences cited in the text are statistically significant at the .05 level. Table II shows provisional estimates of the standard errors associated with these results.

General AIDS knowledge – Knowledge about AIDS and HIV was ascertained through a series of statements about the general characteristics of the disease and how it is transmitted. Respondents were asked to classify each statement as definitely true, probably true, probably false, or definitely false. As shown in figure 1, the level of general knowledge about AIDS and HIV in the second quarter of 1990 was unchanged for most measures from the first quarter.

Gains noted during the first quarter of 1990 in areas where knowledge levels were low in 1989 continued at the elevated level during the second quarter. For example, the increase in the percent of adults who stated that it is definitely true that AIDS can damage the brain (27 percent in the last quarter of 1989 to 43 percent in the first quarter of 1990) remained in the second quarter of 1990 (42 percent). The percent who thought it definitely true that a person can be infected with the AIDS virus and not have AIDS rose from 58 percent in 1989 to 65 percent in the first quarter of 1990 and 64 percent in the second quarter.

The high baseline level of knowledge about the main modes of HIV transmission remained at the improved level reached in the first quarter of 1990. The proportions of

adults who thought it definitely true that HIV can be transmitted via sexual intercourse and from a pregnant woman to her child each increased from the level in the last quarter of 1989 by 4 percentage points to 87 and 86 percent, respectively in the first quarter of 1990, and remained at 87 percent and 85 percent in the second quarter. The proportion of adults who thought it very likely that HIV can be transmitted by sharing needles for drug use remained at the January-March 1990 level of 95 percent. Knowledge about HIV transmission via needle sharing was asked in a separate series of questions.

Despite the overall improvement in knowledge shown in the first quarter of 1990, there was a decrease in one area. In October–December 1989, 75 percent of U.S. adults 18 years of age and over realized that it is definitely false that there is a vaccine for the AIDS virus. This decreased to 68 percent for January–March 1990 and remained at the lower level for the period, April–June 1990. This change from the 1989 level may reflect confusion between a vaccine and drugs that are used in treatment of AIDS/HIV, e.g., zidovudine (AZT), or it may result from publicity concerning progress towards development of a vaccine.

Although knowledge levels have increased since 1989, self-assessed knowledge about AIDS declined. In October–December 1989, 24 percent of adults stated that they knew a lot about AIDS; in January–March 1990, this proportion declined to 18 percent. Similarly, in April–June 1990, 19 percent of adults stated they knew a lot about AIDS. The proportion of adults claiming to know nothing about AIDS increased from 7 to 11 percent by the first quarter of 1990 and held constant through the second quarter. It is impossible to determine whether the decline in self-assessed level of knowledge from 1989 reflects a sense of information overload associated with the increasing amount of information available about development of a vaccine for HIV, modes of transmission, and forms of treatment, or if it is solely an effect of questionnaire design changes. Although this question is worded the same in 1990 as in preceding years, its location in the interview has changed so that it is now the first question asked.

General knowledge about AIDS continues to vary by demographic and socioeconomic characteristics. Persons aged 50 years and over were less knowledgeable than younger persons. Knowledge increased directly with number of years of school completed. For 8 out of the 9 measures of general AIDS knowledge examined, non-Hispanic white adults were more likely than non-Hispanic black or Hispanic adults to respond correctly. For one measure (awareness that AIDS can damage the brain), non-Hispanic black adults were the most knowledgeable. There was no consistent difference by gender in general AIDS knowledge. These differentials in objective measures of knowledge were generally consistent with those in self-assessed knowledge about AIDS. The population subgroups most likely to state that they know a lot about AIDS were persons below 50 years of age and those with more than 12 years of school.

Two new items regarding general AIDS knowledge were added to the 1990 NHIS AIDS survey. One of these is a question asking whether or not the respondent had ever heard the AIDS virus referred to as "HIV." Two-thirds of adults were familiar with the "HIV" term as of January–March 1990; by April–June 1990, 71 percent reported recognizing this term. However, familiarity with the term is lower among adults 50 years of age or over and among adults with less than 12 years of school. In January–March 1990, these percentages were only 54 percent and 42 percent, respectively. In April–June 1990, they were 58 percent and 44 percent, respectively. The percent of persons of Hispanic origin who said they were familiar with this term decreased substantially between the first quarter and the second quarter 1990, from 48 percent to 39 percent. The possibility that this difference may be related to a translation problem is being investigated.

The proportion of adults who categorized the second new item, a statement regarding the availability of drugs to extend the life of a person infected with HIV, as true or probably true remained at the same level in the second quarter as in the first quarter 1990, (46 and 27 percent and 45 and 27 percent, respectively).

Misinformation about HIV transmission—Respondents were asked to estimate the risk of HIV transmission associated with several forms of casual contact with infected or potentially infected individuals, e.g., working with someone with AIDS, using public toilets, and so forth. Five response options were offered for the likelihood of transmission: very likely, somewhat likely, somewhat unlikely, very unlikely, and definitely not possible. Both "very unlikely" and "definitely not possible" were interpreted as correct responses, even for forms of contact where our current understanding of the virus indicates that there definitely is no possibility of transmission. The decision to accept "very unlikely" as correct was based on the large numbers of respondents who chose that option, seemingly unwilling to commit themselves to the concept of a zero probability.

As has been true since 1987 when the survey was begun, the results for April–June 1990 indicated that many misperceptions about HIV transmission exist. The proportion of adults who assessed the risk of transmission as "very unlikely" or "definitely not possible" varied from less than half for transmission via insect bites or contact with the saliva of an infected individual (sharing eating utensils, being sneezed/coughed on) to about three-fourths for working near or attending school with someone with HIV. The level of misinformation, as indicated by these measures, has remained constant in 1990.

As with general AIDS knowledge, there were demographic and socioeconomic differentials in

misperceptions about HIV transmission. Adults 50 years of age and over were more likely than younger adults to be misinformed, and non-Hispanic black and Hispanic individuals generally had more misperceptions than did non-Hispanic white individuals. The level of misinformation decreased with increasing educational attainment. Again, there was no consistent differential by gender.

Information and communication about AIDS—The proportion of adults who reported discussing AIDS with their children aged 10–17 years during April–June 1990 was 68 percent, and the proportion who reported that their children had received instruction in school about AIDS was 75 percent. Ninety percent of adults stated that they had received information about AIDS/HIV in the month preceding the NHIS AIDS survey. The most commonly-reported sources of information were television (cited by 80 percent of adults), newspapers and magazines (57 and 45 percent, respectively), and radio (33 percent).

Sources of AIDS information differed somewhat by race and ethnicity. Newspapers were reported more frequently by non-Hispanic white individuals (59 percent) than by Hispanic or non-Hispanic black individuals (42 percent and 47 percent, respectively). There were 7 sources of information that were reported more often by non-Hispanic black than by Hispanic or non-Hispanic white individuals: street signs and billboards, store displays, mass transit displays (signs in buses and subways), health department brochures, work place brochures, and friends and relatives. Mention of these sources by non-Hispanic black individuals ranged from 11 percent to 26 percent.

Blood donation and testing—There was no change in blood donation experience between January-March 1990 and April–June 1990. Data for the first two quarters of 1990 indicated that 39 and 40 percent of adults, respectively, had ever donated blood, 16 and 15 percent had donated blood since March 1985 (when blood donations were first routinely tested for HIV), and 7 and 6 percent had donated blood in the preceding year. Multiple donations were common among those who had donated blood. Of the 15 percent of adults who had donated blood since March 1985, as reported in April–June 1990, about half (7 percent) donated blood 3 or more times.

Seventy-nine percent of U.S. adults had heard of the blood test to detect HIV antibodies. Sixty-eight percent knew blood donations are routinely tested for HIV, i.e., seven-eighths of those familiar with the blood test. Two percent of the persons who had donated blood since March 1985—an estimated 500,000 individuals—reportedly did so at least in part to be tested for HIV. Use of blood donation as a means of being tested for HIV was reported more often by men than women and was far more common for non-Hispanic black than other adults.

Ten percent of U.S. adults reported in January–March 1990 having had their blood tested for HIV antibodies (not counting testing performed in conjunction with blood donation), including 7 percent tested once and 3 percent with multiple tests. In April–June 1990 , these percentages remained the same. Including the 15 percent of adults who were tested as a part of blood donation since 1985, an estimated 25 percent of the adult population has been tested. This is a substantial increase over the estimate of 21 percent from October-December 1989, but the difference may partly reflect questionnaire changes. In 1988–89, the NHIS AIDS questionnaire asked if respondents had the AIDS blood test; if they did not respond positively but had donated blood since March 1985, they were included in the estimate of persons tested. In this year's survey respondents are asked separately about blood donation and testing exclusive of blood donation; then the two estimates are summed.

The proportion of adults who had been tested exclusive of blood donation declined sharply with age, from 16 percent of persons 18–29 years of age to 12 and 3 percent, respectively, of those 30–49 years of age and 50 years of age and over. Men were slightly more likely than women to have been tested exclusive of blood donation, 11 percent compared with 9 percent. Hispanic adults and non-Hispanic black adults were more likely than non-Hispanic white adults to have been tested outside of blood donations, 14 percent each compared with 9 percent. Having been tested also increased with education, from 8 percent of persons with less than 12 years of school to 12 percent of those with more than 12 years of school.

Of persons tested exclusive of blood donation, 52 percent stated that all their tests were required, i.e., conducted as a part of an activity that includes mandatory blood testing. For 43 percent all their tests were voluntary. Three percent had both required and voluntary tests. The most commonly cited reasons for required tests were hospitalization or surgery and military induction or service (each reported by 10 percent of persons tested outside of blood donation). In addition, 7 percent were tested as a requirement of employment, 6 percent for life insurance, 7 percent for immigration (cited by 47 percent of Hispanic adults who were tested exclusive of blood donation), 4 percent for health insurance, and 14 percent for other reasons. Individuals may have cited more than one reason for a single test (e.g., for both employment and health insurance) or may have had more than one required test; thus, the sum of the individual reasons exceeds the proportion of persons with at least one required blood test. The only difference reported between the first and second quarters of 1990 was Hispanic adults reporting immigration as a reason for testing, 35 percent in the first quarter and 47 percent in the second quarter.

Twenty-nine percent of persons tested for HIV antibodies exclusive of blood donations—including both voluntary and required testing—had their last blood test at a doctor's

office or HMO, and 22 percent were tested at a hospital clinic or emergency room. Forty-three percent and 9 percent of Hispanic adults tested for HIV antibodies, other than in blood donations, were tested at these locations, respectively. Eleven percent of all adults tested were tested at military induction/service sites. Only 3 percent of persons tested for HIV exclusive of blood donations were tested at designated AIDS clinic/counseling/testing sites. Thirty-nine percent of persons tested received counseling about AIDS and HIV before the test was administered.

Three-fourths of the persons tested (74 percent) received their test results; of those who did not, one-third reportedly wanted the results of their tests. Of those persons who received their test results, only 29 percent were given counseling about prevention of HIV transmission at the time the results were provided. Sixty-six percent of persons who received results got their test results in person, compared with smaller proportions who received their test results by mail (13 percent), telephone (15 percent), or in some other way (5 percent). The vast majority (91 percent) of persons tested for HIV felt that their tests were handled properly in terms of confidentiality of test results.

Six percent of U.S. adults reportedly plan to be tested for HIV antibodies in the next 12 months, according to the NHIS AIDS data for April–June 1990. This figure, which has remained fairly stable since 1989, was 2 times higher for minorities than for non-Hispanic white adults. Thirteen percent of non-Hispanic black adults reported plans to be tested, compared with 11 percent of Hispanic adults and 5 percent of non-Hispanic white adults.

Of persons who plan to be tested, two-thirds stated that they would be tested voluntarily, because they personally wanted to know if they are infected. Twenty-four percent plan to be tested as part of blood donation, and 16 percent cited the need for testing as a requirement for a job other than military. Some individuals reported more than one reason for anticipated testing. The locations at which persons plan to be tested are similar to those reported for tests already conducted, with private doctors/HMOs and hospital emergency rooms/clinics accounting for over half (38 and 17 percent, respectively).

Risk of HIV infection—The second-quarter 1990 NHIS AIDS survey results indicated that 5 percent of U.S. adults, an estimated 9 million persons, received blood transfusions between 1977 and 1985. This is the period when HIV is thought to have entered the United States and when routine screening of blood donations began. The level reported in the second quarter agrees with that reported in the first quarter. About half of the nation's adults think the blood supply is now safe for transfusions.

The 1990 AIDS survey revealed increasing uncertainty about the efficacy of condom use in preventing HIV transmission. The proportion of adults who think condoms are very effective in preventing transmission of the virus declined from 33 percent in October–December 1989 to 27 percent in both January–March 1990 and April–June 1990, while the proportion who did not know rose from 7 to 14 percent. Although these shifts occurred in all population subgroups, the increase in uncertainty was especially evident among adults age 50 years and over. For this group, the proportion who did not know how effective condoms are in preventing HIV transmission rose from 13 percent in the last quarter of 1989 to 23 percent in January–March 1990. These differences between 1989 and 1990 may be due to the change in the format of the question.

Eighty percent of adults felt there was no chance of their having been infected with HIV, and 15 percent said there was a low chance. The proportions who thought there was a medium or high chance of already being infected were 2 and less than 1 percent, respectively. Between the last quarter of 1989 and the second quarter of 1990, the proportion of persons who thought there was no chance of their becoming infected with HIV in the future dropped from 77 to 73 percent, reversing a long-term increase in this area. As of April–June 1990, 21 percent believed that they had a low chance of becoming infected; three and less than 1 percent, respectively, cited a medium or high chance. Only 2 percent of adults reported being in any of the categories associated with a high risk of HIV infection. This proportion has remained stable since the risk behavior question was added to the NHIS AIDS questionnaire in 1988.

As of April–June 1990, 15 percent of adults knew someone with AIDS or HIV, about the same figure as in the last quarter of 1989. This proportion remains higher for persons under 50 years of age than for those age 50 years and over and higher for black non-Hispanic adults than for Hispanic or non-Hispanic white adults. The proportion of adults who reported knowing someone with AIDS or HIV increased sharply with number of years of school, from 8 percent of persons with less than 12 years of school to 21 percent of those with more than 12 years of school.

Suggested citation

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Symbols

–	Quantity zero
0	Quantity more than zero but less than 0.05

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1990 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, April–June 1990

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Total	Age			Sex		Race/ethnicity			Education		
		18–29 years	30–49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	Non-Hispanic White	Non-Hispanic Black	Hispanic	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
	Percent distribution											
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1. How much would you say you know about AIDS?												
A lot	19	22	22	12	18	19	19	17	18	9	15	27
Some	47	53	54	35	46	49	50	39	36	29	50	54
A little	24	21	20	30	25	22	22	27	28	31	27	17
Nothing	11	4	4	23	11	10	9	17	18	30	8	3
Don't know	0	–	0	0	0	0	0	0	–	0	0	0
2. In the past month, have you received information about AIDS from any of these sources?[1]												
Television	80	81	81	78	81	79	80	77	79	75	81	81
Radio	33	38	38	25	38	30	34	30	34	26	31	40
Magazines	45	50	49	37	43	47	46	42	37	30	43	56
Newspapers	57	53	60	55	58	56	59	47	42	40	55	67
Street signs/billboards	12	18	13	7	14	10	11	17	14	8	10	16
Store displays/store distributed brochures	7	10	8	4	7	7	6	11	9	5	7	8
Bus/streetcar/subway displays	4	7	4	2	5	3	3	10	7	3	3	5
Health department brochures	18	25	20	11	16	20	17	26	18	12	18	21
Workplace distributed brochures	12	11	17	6	12	12	11	18	10	5	10	17
School distributed brochures	10	16	11	3	8	11	8	13	11	7	9	12
Church distributed brochures	4	4	5	4	4	4	4	7	7	4	4	5
Community organization	5	6	6	4	5	6	4	9	6	3	4	7
Friend/acquaintance	13	18	16	7	13	13	12	18	15	10	12	16
Other	3	4	3	2	2	3	3	3	4	1	2	4
Don't know	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	0	0
Received no AIDS information in past month	10	9	8	13	10	10	10	12	12	17	10	6
3. Have you heard the AIDS virus called HIV?												
Yes	71	75	79	58	70	71	74	71	39	44	70	85
No	27	24	20	38	28	26	24	27	58	51	27	14
Don't know	2	2	1	4	2	2	2	3	4	5	2	1
4a. AIDS can reduce the body's natural protection against disease.												
Definitely true	78	81	85	68	79	78	82	65	63	54	78	91
Probably true	11	11	8	13	11	11	10	13	19	18	12	6
Probably false	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	3	1	0
Definitely false	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	5	4	3	3	1
Don't know	8	5	4	15	8	8	6	15	14	22	6	2
4b. AIDS can damage the brain.												
Definitely true	42	40	44	42	42	42	41	50	45	40	42	43
Probably true	25	26	25	26	26	25	26	22	24	27	27	23
Probably false	9	12	10	6	9	8	9	6	7	5	8	12
Definitely false	4	6	5	2	4	4	4	4	5	2	4	6
Don't know	19	17	16	25	18	20	20	17	18	26	19	16
4c. AIDS is an infectious disease caused by a virus.												
Definitely true	69	76	77	56	71	68	70	70	65	55	68	78
Probably true	16	15	13	19	15	16	15	16	20	19	17	12
Probably false	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	1	3	2	2
Definitely false	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3
Don't know	10	5	5	19	9	11	10	10	12	20	10	4
4d. A person can be infected with the AIDS virus and not have the disease AIDS.												
Definitely true	64	67	72	53	64	65	67	59	49	43	62	78
Probably true	17	16	15	21	17	18	17	17	20	20	20	14
Probably false	3	4	2	3	3	3	3	2	5	4	3	2
Definitely false	3	4	3	2	4	3	2	6	5	4	3	2
Don't know	12	9	7	21	13	12	11	16	21	29	11	5
4e. ANY person with the AIDS virus can pass it on to someone else through sexual intercourse.												
Definitely true	87	92	90	81	86	89	88	88	82	81	89	90
Probably true	9	6	7	12	10	7	9	7	12	11	8	8
Probably false	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0
Definitely false	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Don't know	3	1	1	6	3	3	3	4	5	7	2	1
4f. A pregnant women who has the AIDS virus can give it to her baby.												
Definitely true	85	89	89	78	83	87	86	85	81	76	86	90
Probably true	11	9	9	14	13	9	10	10	13	15	11	8
Probably false	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Definitely false	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	–	0	0	0
Don't know	4	2	2	7	4	4	4	4	6	8	3	2

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1990 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, April–June 1990—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Total	Age			Sex		Race/ethnicity			Education		
		18–29 years	30–49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	Non-Hispanic White	Non-Hispanic Black	Hispanic	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
	Percent distribution											
4g. There are drugs available to treat AIDS or the AIDS virus which can lengthen the life of an infected person.												
Definitely true	45	46	51	38	46	45	47	41	35	31	43	55
Probably true	27	27	27	28	27	28	28	23	26	24	30	27
Probably false	6	7	5	5	6	5	6	6	5	6	6	6
Definitely false	6	7	7	4	6	6	5	10	9	7	7	5
Don't know	16	12	11	24	15	16	14	20	24	31	15	8
4h. There is a vaccine available to the public that protects a person from getting the AIDS virus.												
Definitely true	2	3	2	3	3	2	2	6	4	5	2	2
Probably true	4	4	3	4	4	4	3	6	10	6	4	2
Probably false	9	10	9	10	9	10	9	10	10	11	10	8
Definitely false	69	71	76	60	71	67	73	58	52	48	69	80
Don't know	15	12	10	24	13	17	14	20	24	29	15	8
4i. There is no cure for AIDS at present.												
Definitely true	85	86	89	81	85	86	87	81	77	74	86	91
Probably true	7	6	6	8	7	7	6	8	7	8	8	5
Probably false	1	2	1	1	·	1	1	2	2	2	1	1
Definitely false	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	3	3	3	1	1
Don't know	5	3	3	8	5	5	4	7	11	12	4	2
5. How likely do you think it is that a person will get AIDS or the AIDS virus infection from—												
5a. Working near someone with the AIDS virus?												
Very likely	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	4	3	4	2	2
Somewhat likely	6	7	6	6	7	6	5	8	11	9	6	5
Somewhat unlikely	9	10	9	9	10	9	9	9	11	10	10	8
Very unlikely	40	40	40	40	40	40	42	37	29	32	41	43
Definitely not possible	36	40	39	31	35	38	37	34	38	31	36	40
Don't know	6	2	4	11	6	6	5	8	9	14	5	2
5b. Eating in a restaurant where the cook has the AIDS virus?												
Very likely	5	4	5	7	6	5	5	8	6	8	6	4
Somewhat likely	17	17	17	17	18	16	17	16	17	18	18	15
Somewhat unlikely	13	15	13	11	13	13	13	14	13	12	12	14
Very unlikely	34	33	37	32	34	34	36	28	25	25	34	39
Definitely not possible	21	25	22	18	20	23	21	21	27	18	21	24
Don't know	10	6	6	16	9	10	9	14	11	19	10	5
5c. Sharing plates, forks, or glasses with someone who has the AIDS virus?												
Very likely	10	8	9	11	10	9	9	12	9	12	10	8
Somewhat likely	22	20	22	22	23	20	21	23	24	24	21	20
Somewhat unlikely	13	15	13	12	13	13	14	12	11	11	14	14
Very unlikely	29	30	31	26	29	29	31	24	21	21	28	34
Definitely not possible	18	22	19	13	16	19	17	17	24	15	18	19
Don't know	9	5	6	15	8	9	8	11	11	17	9	5
5d. Using public toilets?												
Very likely	5	6	4	6	5	6	5	8	8	9	6	3
Somewhat likely	14	13	13	16	15	13	12	15	24	20	14	10
Somewhat unlikely	11	12	11	11	11	12	11	13	9	10	13	11
Very unlikely	36	35	39	35	37	36	39	31	22	26	36	43
Definitely not possible	25	29	28	18	25	25	25	24	27	18	25	29
Don't know	8	5	5	14	7	9	8	10	10	16	7	4
5e. Sharing needles for drug use with someone who has the AIDS virus?												
Very likely	95	97	97	92	95	95	96	94	91	90	96	97
Somewhat likely	2	1	1	3	2	2	2	3	3	4	2	1
Somewhat unlikely	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Very unlikely	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1
Definitely not possible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Don't know	2	1	1	4	2	2	1	2	3	5	1	1
5f. Being coughed or sneezed on by someone who has the AIDS virus?												
Very likely	8	7	7	10	8	8	7	10	9	10	8	6
Somewhat likely	20	18	20	23	20	20	20	20	21	23	20	18
Somewhat unlikely	15	16	15	13	15	14	15	14	12	12	15	16
Very unlikely	30	34	32	26	32	29	32	25	24	23	30	35
Definitely not possible	17	22	18	12	16	18	16	17	22	14	17	18
Don't know	10	5	7	17	10	11	10	14	12	19	10	6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1990 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, April–June 1990—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Total	Age			Sex		Race/ethnicity			Education		
		18–29 years	30–49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	Non-Hispanic White	Non-Hispanic Black	Hispanic	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
	Percent distribution											
5g. Attending school with a child who has the AIDS virus?												
Very likely	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	2	3	1	1
Somewhat likely	5	4	5	6	6	4	4	6	8	8	5	4
Somewhat unlikely	9	8	10	9	9	8	9	10	8	8	9	9
Very unlikely	41	40	42	41	42	40	44	36	28	34	42	44
Definitely not possible	37	44	39	31	35	40	37	36	45	33	38	40
Don't know	6	2	4	11	6	6	5	9	9	15	5	3
5h. Mosquitoes or other insects?												
Very likely	10	11	9	9	11	8	8	15	15	13	10	8
Somewhat likely	19	22	19	17	20	18	17	21	25	21	20	17
Somewhat unlikely	8	9	9	7	8	8	9	7	6	6	9	9
Very unlikely	24	23	25	24	25	24	26	20	14	19	23	28
Definitely not possible	19	20	22	17	19	20	20	17	21	14	18	23
Don't know	20	15	17	27	17	22	20	20	19	27	20	15
8. Have you ever discussed AIDS with any of your children aged 10–17?[2]												
Yes	68	56	69	62	55	78	68	72	58	51	67	75
No	32	44	31	38	45	22	32	28	42	49	33	24
Don't know	0	–	0	–	–	0	–	–	–	–	–	0
9. Have any or all of your children aged 10–17 had instruction at school about AIDS?[2]												
Yes	75	67	77	69	71	79	74	81	73	68	77	76
No	9	13	9	9	9	9	9	7	12	14	8	9
Don't know	15	20	14	22	20	12	17	12	15	18	15	15
10. Have you ever donated blood?												
Yes	40	31	44	41	50	30	43	32	27	26	37	50
No	60	69	56	58	50	69	57	67	73	73	63	50
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	–	0	0	0
11a. Have you donated blood since March 1985?												
Yes	15	21	19	6	18	12	16	12	9	5	14	21
No	85	79	81	93	81	88	83	88	91	95	86	78
Don't know	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
11b. Have you donated blood in the past 12 months?												
Yes	6	8	7	3	7	4	7	4	2	2	5	9
No	94	92	92	97	92	95	93	95	98	98	95	90
Don't know	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
12. How many times have you donated blood since March 1985?												
Once	5	9	5	2	5	4	5	4	4	2	5	5
Twice	3	4	3	1	4	2	3	3	2	1	2	4
Three times or more	7	8	10	4	9	6	8	4	3	2	6	12
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Did not donate blood since March 1985[3]	85	79	81	94	82	88	84	88	91	95	86	79
13. How many times have you donated blood in the past 12 months?												
Once	3	5	4	1	4	3	4	3	2	1	3	5
Twice	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	0	0	1	2
Three times or more	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	2
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	–	–	0	0	0
Did not donate blood in the past 12 months[4]	94	92	93	97	93	95	93	96	98	98	95	91
14. Have you ever heard of a blood test that can detect the AIDS virus infection?												
Yes	79	82	87	66	79	78	81	68	68	60	78	89
No	19	17	11	30	19	19	17	30	30	36	20	10
Don't know	2	1	1	4	2	3	2	2	2	4	2	1
15. To the best of your knowledge, are blood donations routinely tested for the AIDS virus infection?												
Yes	68	72	77	54	68	68	72	54	53	47	66	81
No	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	6	5	4	4	4
Don't know	6	6	6	8	6	6	6	8	10	9	7	5
Never heard of test[5]	21	18	13	34	21	22	19	32	32	40	22	11
16. Was one of your reasons for donating blood because you wanted to be tested for the AIDS virus infection?[6]												
Yes	2	3	2	1	3	1	1	7	3	1	3	1
No	82	80	85	74	82	81	84	68	66	67	76	87
Don't know	0	–	0	–	0	–	0	–	–	–	0	0
Never heard of test[5]	11	12	8	19	10	12	10	18	22	22	16	7
17. Except for blood donations since 1985, have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection?												
Yes	10	16	12	3	11	9	9	14	14	8	9	12
No	66	64	73	60	65	67	70	52	51	50	67	74
Don't know	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	1	3	2	2	3
Never heard of test[5]	21	18	13	34	21	22	19	32	32	40	22	11

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1990 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, April–June 1990—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Total	Age			Sex		Race/ethnicity			Education		
		18–29 years	30–49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	Non-Hispanic White	Non-Hispanic Black	Hispanic	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
	Percent distribution											
18. How many times have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection, not including blood donations?												
Once	7	11	8	2	7	7	6	9	10	6	6	8
Twice	2	3	2	0	2	1	1	3	3	1	1	2
Three times or more	1	2	2	0	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	2
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	–	0	0	0
Never heard of/had test[7]	90	84	88	97	89	91	91	86	86	92	91	88
19. How many times in the past 12 months have you had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection, not including blood donations?												
None	5	7	6	2	5	4	4	6	6	4	4	6
Once	5	8	5	1	5	4	4	7	8	4	4	5
Twice	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Three times or more	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Don't know	0	–	0	0	0	0	0	0	–	0	0	0
Never heard of/had test[7]	90	84	88	97	89	91	91	86	86	92	91	88
20a. Were the blood tests, including those you had before the past 12 months, required or did you go for them voluntarily, or were there some of each?[8]												
All required	52	57	50	47	55	49	54	43	60	57	48	54
All volunteered	43	39	46	45	39	47	42	53	35	40	47	41
Some of each	3	2	3	3	4	1	3	3	3	2	2	3
Don't know	2	1	1	5	1	3	1	1	2	1	2	2
20b. Were any of the blood tests required for:[8]												
Hospitalization or a surgical procedure?	10	8	9	22	7	13	12	10	2	11	9	11
Health insurance?	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	2	–	2	4	4
Life insurance?	6	3	10	5	9	4	9	1	–	2	4	9
Employment?	7	8	8	2	7	7	7	10	2	3	8	8
Military induction or military service?	10	16	6	4	17	2	11	10	1	3	12	10
Immigration?	7	6	7	5	8	5	2	1	47	26	3	3
Other	14	17	12	10	10	18	14	14	11	12	14	14
Don't know	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
21. When was your last blood test for the AIDS virus infection?[8]												
1990	24	23	24	28	27	21	25	26	14	22	28	22
1989	40	45	40	27	39	42	39	42	50	43	39	41
1988	16	16	16	15	13	18	15	12	24	19	12	17
1987	9	8	10	6	9	8	10	11	5	4	9	11
1986	4	3	3	8	4	4	4	2	1	3	4	4
1985	2	2	3	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	4	1
Don't know	2	1	2	7	2	3	2	3	2	4	2	2
22a. Was your last test required or did you go for it voluntarily?[8]												
Required	53	58	51	47	57	50	55	44	61	58	49	55
Voluntary	44	40	47	48	41	47	43	55	37	41	49	42
Don't know	2	1	2	5	1	3	1	1	2	1	2	2
22b. Was the test required for:[8]												
Hospitalization or a surgical procedure?	9	7	8	19	7	11	11	7	2	11	8	9
Health insurance?	3	3	3	3	4	3	4	2	–	2	4	4
Life insurance?	6	3	9	3	8	4	8	1	–	2	3	9
Employment?	7	7	7	2	7	7	7	10	2	3	8	7
Military induction or military service?	9	15	5	4	16	2	11	10	1	2	11	10
Immigration?	7	6	8	5	8	5	2	1	46	25	3	3
Other	12	16	10	10	8	18	13	13	10	12	13	13
Don't know	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
23. Not including a blood donation, where was your last blood test for the AIDS virus done?[8]												
AIDS clinic/counseling/testing site	3	4	2	5	3	4	3	3	3	3	2	4
Clinic run by employer	4	4	5	2	5	4	4	8	4	5	5	4
Doctor/HMO	29	26	31	33	24	35	27	30	43	25	29	31
Public health department	8	10	7	6	8	9	6	16	11	14	8	7
Hospital/emergency room/outpatient clinic	22	20	21	36	17	28	25	20	9	24	23	21
STD clinic	0	0	0	–	0	0	–	1	–	–	0	0
Family planning clinic	1	1	2	–	1	1	1	1	6	4	1	1
Prenatal clinic	1	1	0	–	–	1	1	1	–	3	–	0
Tuberculosis clinic	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Other clinic	5	4	6	4	6	4	4	4	13	7	4	5
Drug treatment facility	0	0	0	–	0	0	0	–	–	–	0	0
Military induction/service site	11	17	7	6	18	3	13	10	2	3	14	11
Immigration site	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	4	1	1
Other	11	8	15	8	15	7	14	4	2	8	10	14
Don't know	0	0	–	–	0	–	–	1	–	–	–	0

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1990 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, April–June 1990—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Total	Age			Sex		Race/ethnicity			Education		
		18–29 years	30–49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	Non-Hispanic White	Non-Hispanic Black	Hispanic	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
	Percent distribution											
24. Before your last blood test for the AIDS virus infection, were you counseled about the AIDS virus and the meaning of the test?[8]												
Yes	39	40	40	28	41	36	37	41	45	38	39	39
No	60	59	58	71	57	62	61	59	54	61	60	59
Don't know	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	–	1	1
25. Did you get the results of your last test?[8]												
Yes	74	76	72	76	73	75	71	80	86	79	74	72
No	25	23	27	23	26	24	28	20	14	19	25	26
Don't know	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	–	–	–	1	0
26. Did you want the results of your last test?[9]												
Yes	29	32	27	23	30	27	28	26	25	55	23	26
No	67	60	71	74	67	67	68	65	75	45	72	69
Don't know	4	8	2	4	3	6	4	9	–	–	5	5
27. When you received the results of your last test, did you receive counseling or talk with a health professional about how to lower your chances of becoming infected with the AIDS virus or how to avoid passing it on to another person?[10]												
Yes	29	32	29	14	31	26	23	45	37	27	28	30
No	71	68	71	84	69	74	77	54	63	73	72	70
Don't know	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	–	0	0	0
28. Were the results given in person, by telephone, by mail or in some other way?[10]												
In person	66	66	64	71	67	64	59	77	87	84	65	59
By telephone	15	15	16	15	13	18	19	12	1	9	16	18
By mail	13	12	15	10	14	13	15	9	4	4	15	16
Other	5	6	5	2	6	5	7	1	4	3	4	7
Don't know	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	–	–	0	1
29. Do you feel your last test for the AIDS virus infection was handled properly in terms of the confidentiality of your test results?[8]												
Yes	91	92	91	91	91	92	91	96	90	92	91	92
No	3	1	3	4	3	2	3	2	4	3	2	3
Don't know	5	6	5	5	6	5	6	2	6	4	7	4
30. Do you expect to have a blood test for the AIDS virus infection in the next 12 months?												
Yes	6	11	7	2	8	5	5	13	11	7	6	7
No	68	65	77	61	67	69	73	48	48	49	68	79
Don't know	4	5	4	3	4	4	3	7	8	4	4	4
Never heard of test[5]	21	18	13	34	21	22	19	32	32	40	22	11
31. Tell me which of these statements explain why you will have the blood test:[11]												
Voluntarily, because you personally want to know if you are infected	67	69	67	57	63	72	57	83	83	86	68	55
As part of a blood donation	24	25	22	31	26	23	27	21	23	19	25	26
As part of a hospitalization or surgical procedure	11	10	9	21	10	12	12	9	7	12	10	10
As a requirement for health insurance	11	14	9	11	13	10	10	16	13	14	12	10
As a requirement for life insurance	9	10	10	7	11	7	8	13	10	13	8	9
As a requirement for a job, other than military	16	16	17	13	17	15	17	20	9	16	14	17
As a requirement for the military	12	18	6	9	17	6	13	11	12	13	11	12
As a requirement for immigration	3	3	3	1	3	2	2	3	6	5	2	2
As a required part of some other activity that includes a blood sample and automatic AIDS testing	14	16	13	10	13	16	14	16	12	13	15	14
32. Where will you go to have a blood test for the AIDS virus infection?[11]												
AIDS clinic/counseling/testing site	2	2	2	–	2	1	1	3	4	2	2	1
Clinic run by employer	3	2	5	3	4	3	3	3	6	4	4	3
Doctor/HMO	38	39	36	43	36	40	41	32	37	35	41	37
Hospital/emergency room/outpatient clinic	17	15	20	15	15	21	17	20	15	23	18	14
Other clinic	9	9	10	4	8	10	5	12	16	8	8	10
Public health department	10	12	8	6	8	12	7	17	10	18	7	7
Red Cross/blood bank	8	6	9	13	10	6	11	4	3	3	8	12
Other	10	11	8	13	14	4	12	6	3	5	8	15
Don't know	3	4	2	2	4	2	3	2	4	3	4	2

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Provisional estimates of the percent of persons 18 years of age and over with selected AIDS knowledge and attitudes from the 1990 National Health Interview Survey, by selected characteristics: United States, April–June 1990—Con.

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in technical notes]

AIDS knowledge or attitude	Total	Age: 18–29 years	Age: 30–49 years	Age: 50 years and over	Sex: Male	Sex: Female	Race/ethnicity: Non-Hispanic White	Race/ethnicity: Non-Hispanic Black	Race/ethnicity: Hispanic	Education: Less than 12 years	Education: 12 years	Education: More than 12 years
	Percent distribution											
33. Did you have a blood transfusion at any time between 1977 and 1985?												
Yes	5	2	5	8	5	6	6	5	4	6	5	5
No	93	97	94	91	94	93	93	94	95	92	94	94
Don't know	1	0	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
34. Do you think the present supply of blood is safe for tranfusions?												
Yes	46	51	49	39	51	42	49	37	32	33	43	56
No	31	31	31	32	28	34	29	39	41	35	34	26
Don't know	23	18	20	29	21	24	23	24	27	32	23	18
35. How effective do you think the use of a condom is to prevent getting the AIDS virus through sexual activity?												
Very effective	27	33	30	20	31	24	27	29	26	19	26	32
Somewhat effective	52	54	55	47	52	52	54	47	46	42	54	55
Not at all effective	4	5	4	5	3	5	4	5	7	7	5	3
Don't know how effective	14	7	10	23	11	16	13	16	16	25	13	8
Don't know method	3	2	1	5	3	3	2	4	6	7	2	1
36. What are your chances of having the AIDS virus?												
High	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
Medium	2	3	2	2	3	2	2	5	3	2	2	2
Low	15	21	18	9	17	14	16	16	13	9	14	20
None	80	74	78	87	78	82	81	75	79	84	82	77
Don't know	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	3	4	4	1	1
37. What are your chances of getting the AIDS virus?												
High	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Medium	3	3	3	2	3	2	2	4	3	2	3	3
Low	21	27	25	12	24	18	22	19	18	12	19	27
None	73	66	70	82	70	76	74	70	73	80	75	68
Don't know	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	5	5	5	2	1
N/A – High chance of already having the AIDS virus	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
38. Have you ever personally known anyone with AIDS or the AIDS virus?												
Yes	15	13	19	11	14	15	14	18	15	8	11	21
No	84	86	80	88	84	84	85	80	83	91	88	78
Don't know	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1
39. Is any of these statements true for you?												
a. You have hemophilia and have received clotting factor concentrates since 1977.												
b. You are a native of Haiti or Central or East Africa who has entered the United States since 1977.												
c. You are a man who has had sex with another man at some time since 1977, even 1 time.												
d. You have taken illegal drugs by needle at any time since 1977.												
e. Since 1977, you are or have been the sex partner of any person who would answer yes to any of the items above (39 a-d).												
f. You have had sex for money or drugs at any time since 1977.												
Yes to at least 1 statement	2	3	3	1	3	2	2	3	2	2	2	2
No to all statements	98	97	97	99	97	98	98	97	98	98	98	98
Don't know	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

[1]Multiple responses may sum to more than 100.
[2]Based on persons answering yes to question 6, "Do you have any children aged 10 through 17?" Question 7 was "How many do you have?"
[3]Persons answering no or don't know to question 10 or 11a.
[4]Persons answering no or don't know to question 10, 11a, or 11b.
[5]Persons answering no or don't know to question 14.
[6]Based on persons answering yes to question 11a.
[7]Persons answering no or don't know to questions 14 or 17.
[8]Based on persons answering yes to question 17.
[9]Persons answering no or don't know to question 25.
[10]Based on persons answering yes to question 25.
[11]Based on persons answering yes to question 30.

Technical notes

The National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) is a continuous, cross-sectional household interview survey. Each week a probability sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population is interviewed by personnel of the U.S. Bureau of the Census to obtain information on the health and other characteristics of each member of the household. Information on special health topics is collected for all or a sample of household members. The 1990 National Health Interview Survey of AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes is asked of one randomly chosen adult 18 years of age or over in each family. The estimates in this report are based on completed interviews with 10,261 persons, or about 86 percent of eligible respondents.

Table I contains the estimated population size of each of the demographic subgroups included in table 1 to allow readers to derive provisional estimates of the number of people in the United States with a given characteristic, for example, the number of men who have had their blood tested for HIV. The population figures in table I are based on 1990 data from the NHIS; they are not official population estimates. Table II shows approximate standard errors of estimates presented in table 1. Both the estimates in table 1 and the standard errors in table II are provisional. They may differ from estimates made using the final data file because they were calculated using a simplified weighting procedure that does not adjust for all the factors used in weighting the final data file. A final data file covering the entire data collection period for 1990 will be available at the end of 1991.

Table I. Sample sizes for the 1989 National Health Interview Survey of AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes and estimated adult population 18 years of age and over, by selected characteristics: United States, April–June 1990

Characteristics	Sample size	Estimated population in thousands
All adults	10,261	180,270
Age		
18–29 years	2,286	46,282
30–49 years	4,123	71,831
50 years and over	3,852	62,157
Sex		
Male	4,312	85,632
Female	5,949	94,638
Race/ethnicity		
Non-Hispanic white	7,816	140,293
Non-Hispanic black	1,484	19,735
Hispanic	645	13,635
Education		
Less than 12 years	2,204	36,901
12 years	3,897	69,945
More than 12 years	4,090	72,130

Table II. Standard errors, expressed in percentage points, of estimated percents from the National Health Interview Survey of AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes, by selected characteristics: United States, April–June 1990

		Age			Sex		Race/ethnicity			Education		
Estimated percent	Total	18–29 years	30–49 years	50 years and over	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Less than 12 years	12 years	More than 12 years
5 or 95	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.7	1.1	0.6	0.4	0.4
10 or 90	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.4	1.0	1.5	0.8	0.6	0.6
15 or 85	0.5	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5	1.2	1.8	1.0	0.7	0.7
20 or 80	0.5	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.6	1.3	2.0	1.1	0.8	0.8
25 or 75	0.6	1.2	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6	1.4	2.2	1.2	0.9	0.9
30 or 70	0.6	1.2	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7	1.5	2.3	1.3	0.9	0.9
35 or 65	0.6	1.3	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7	1.6	2.4	1.3	1.0	1.0
40 or 60	0.6	1.3	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.7	1.6	2.5	1.3	1.0	1.0
45 or 55	0.6	1.3	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.7	1.7	2.5	1.4	1.0	1.0
50	0.6	1.3	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.7	1.7	2.5	1.4	1.0	1.0

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